Implementation of Labour Laws

1174. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Child Labour is on the rise in Mumbai and Government have taken steps to send back large number of children working in Mumbai, back to their homes; and

(b) whether Government are taking steps to strictly implement the Labour Laws to prevent employment of children in various industries and establishment in Mumbai and other parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) Figures for the child labour in Mumbai for 1991 Census are not available. However, as per the Census 2001, the number of child labour in Mumbai is 5,49,811. A concerted campaign is being carried out in Mumbai City by the State Govt. to rescue child labour engaged in different hazardous occupations in various localities of Mumbai and as a result, 938 children were rescued and subsequently handed over to their parents in the last few months.

(b) Conducting inspections of the various industrial units throughout the country with a view to prevent employers to engage children into work is a regular activity of all the State Governments and wherever employers are found engaging child labour, necessary penal action under the provisions of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulations) Act, 1986 is taken by the respective State Governments.

Statistics for educated unemployed

†1175. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have worked out any statistics with regard to educated unemployed in the country;

(b) if not, whether Government have any statistics with regard to the ratio of educated and uneducated unemployed persons in the country;

(c) the number of years in which Government propose to provide employment to educated and uneducated unemployed persons conforming to their competency as per the schemes of Government; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) by when Government would provide employment to those adding to the above number over the period?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir, As per the employment and unemployment survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation during 1999-2000 (Latest), unemployment rate among the educated (secondary & above) on usual status basis was around 7.1%.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Government is targeting creation of around 5 crore employment opportunities during the Tenth Plan period. These will help the backlog of educated and uneducated jobseekers as well as to the fresh entrants to labour force.

Strict enforcement of labour laws

1176. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed a recent report of the International Labour Organization highlighting, *inter-alia* that out of 12.3 million "forced labour" in the world, 9.4 million are in Asia, and 80 per cent of such bonded labour in the Asia Pacific region can be found in India's factories and fields; and

(b) if so, the reaction thereto and the details of any fresh strategy worked out, including strict enforcement of the extant laws, to eliminate all forms of forced labour and protect the weaker and vulnerable sections of society from a life of toiling in bondage?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) The Government is aware of the recent ILO Report on—A Global Alliance against Forced Labour. In order to eradicate the system of Bonded Labour, the Government have enacted the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 under which engaging labour as bonded labour is an offence and punishable. Though the incidence of bonded labour has been coming down steadily, however, instances of bonded labour have been reported from the rural based informal sector from some of the State from time to time. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme started in 1978, so far 2,66,283 labourers have been identified as bonded labourers and all have been adequately rehabilitated by providing rehabilitation package comprising milch animals, allotment of land, a house